



Dedicated to preserving, promoting, and sharing the literature, art, and culture of equestrian, angling, and field sports

NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

FALL 2020

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



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STEEPLECHASE IN ART*

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MEMBER HENRY R. SLACK

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As F. Scott Fitzgerald once said, "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." I find that changes in season usually bring about unexpected changes elsewhere, and who could have predicted where we would all find ourselves this year? As I look back at the many challenges we have faced so far, I am grateful for your loyal support, the leadership from our Board of Directors, and the hard work and fluid commitment from our NSLM team. There is, however, a silver lining: people are increasingly seeking comfort in the natural world, and fall offers a truly wonderful opportunity to enjoy nature. During the pandemic, field sports have become more valuable than ever as welcome respite for both seasoned sporting enthusiasts and novices alike.

During our temporary closure, we began offering many dynamic virtual programs to help to keep our members and friends engaged from home. We reopened in mid-July with industry-leading safety protocols and new exhibitions. We are thrilled to have hosted our first socially-distanced fundraising event, our 2020 Polo Classic Presented by MARS Equestrian™, in early September. The overwhelming enthusiasm and support we received from sponsors and attendees made the event a success despite the many obstacles of the year! We are proud to be sharing \$10,000 of the proceeds with local foodbanks—Seven Loaves and Fauquier Community Foodbank—in recognition of the loss and hardship currently faced by many.

On September 9, we were delighted at long last to open *Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art*, which had been postponed in mid-April. Much like the horses and riders the exhibition features, we ourselves had to clear numerous hurdles in the race to reschedule the exhibition. Thanks to the generosity of our lenders and sponsors, the exhibition is now on view. It showcases 60 works from 18 lenders, capturing skilled jockeys and their mounts who have captivated spectators and artists across centuries. We are truly fortunate that the incredibly moving *Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration* has been extended until the end of the year due to the generosity of the artist, Jamie Wyeth, and the lending institutions.

It is a privilege to welcome Henry R. "Hank" Slack to our Board of Directors. As a former joint Master of Essex Fox Hounds and a collector of sporting art and literature, his knowledge and insight will be a wonderful addition to our Board. As we welcome Hank, we would also like to extend our gratitude to Board Members Helen K. Groves and Lorian Peralta-Ramos for their years of service to the NSLM as they transition to Board Members Emeriti.

We were incredibly saddened to learn of the passing of Board Member David B. Ford after a hard-fought battle against cancer. An avid birdwatcher, sportsman, and advocate for historical preservation, David's thoughtful guidance and leadership will be greatly missed.

All of us at the NSLM are truly grateful for the generosity we have received throughout these past months. While we move into the end of the year with optimism, we also recognize the many serious challenges ahead of us. The support we receive in the coming months is more important than ever before. We ask you to please consider making a gift to the NSLM '54 Fund. If you have not visited us since our reopening, we hope to welcome you back soon. We have missed you!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth von Hassell".

Elizabeth von Hassell
Executive Director

NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

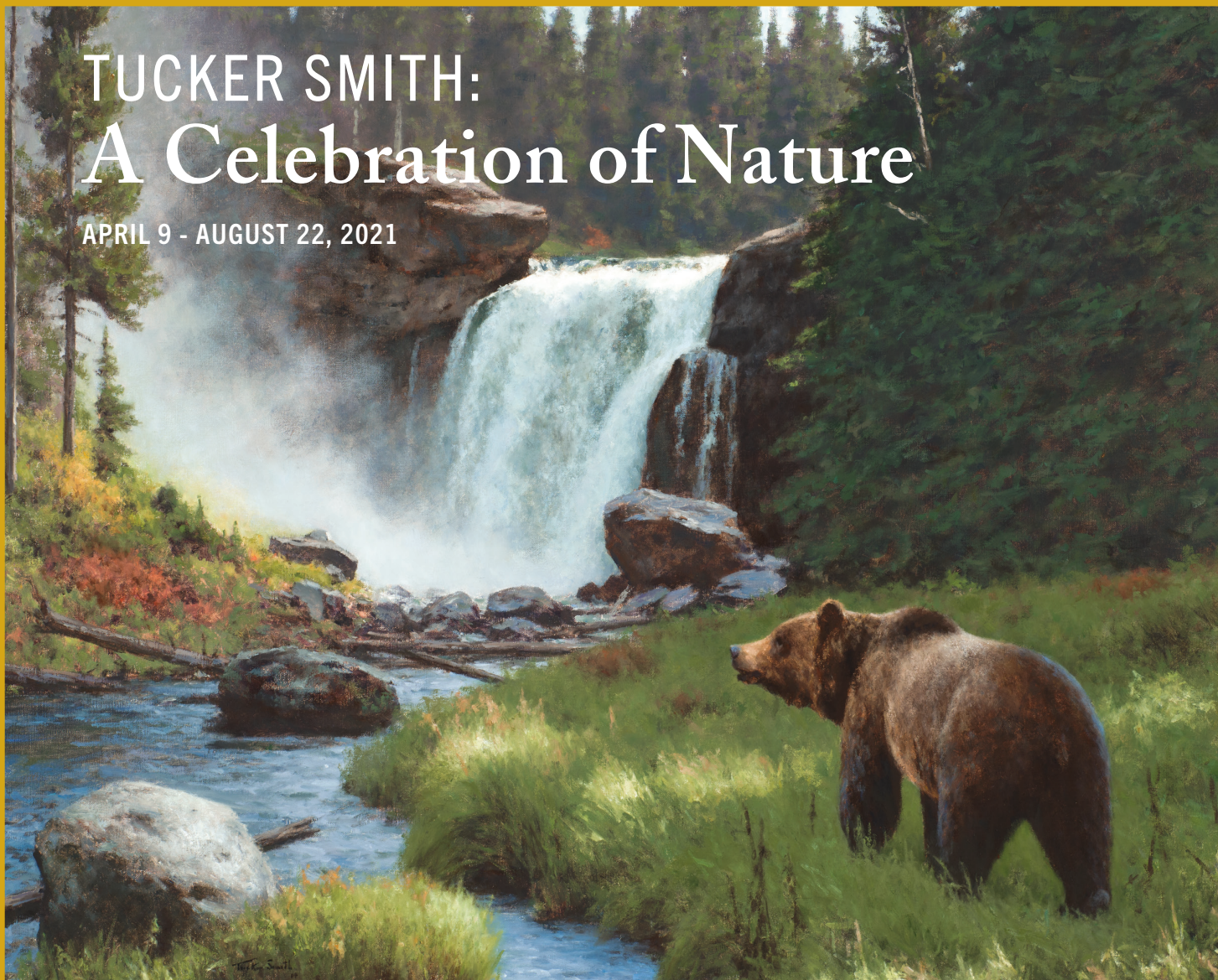
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NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

TUCKER SMITH: A Celebration of Nature

APRIL 9 - AUGUST 22, 2021



A RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION

ORGANIZED BY
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WILDLIFE ART
OF THE UNITED STATES

GUEST CURATED BY
B. Byron Price, Director of Charles M. Russell Center
for the Study of Art of the American West,
University of Oklahoma

EXHIBITION TOURING SCHEDULE

September 12, 2020 – January 3, 2021
National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum
Oklahoma City, OK

April 9, 2021 – August 22, 2021
National Sporting Library & Museum
Middleburg, VA

September – December, 2021
C.M. Russell Museum
Great Falls, MT

September 11, 2021 – January 2, 2022
Booth Western Art Museum
Cartersville, GA

Tucker Smith (American, b. 1940), Moose Falls, Yellowstone National Park, 2014. Oil on canvas. 32 × 40 inches.

NATIONALSPORTING.ORG

This exhibition was made possible at the National Sporting Library & Museum by the generosity of the Manuel & Mary Johnson Foundation.

Thrill of the Chace

September 9, 2020 – March 21, 2021

By Claudia Pfeiffer

George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Head Curator



Previously scheduled to open in April, the National Sporting Library & Museum is excited to present *Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art*. The exhibition intertwines art and history in a journey of the growth of jump racing and the resulting artistic output at the regional, national, and international levels. Visitors will experience seven sections in the galleries: *Origins, Growth, New Heights, Stop Motion, A Golden Age, Post-War, and Today*. Within the artworks, a changing understanding of animals in motion over time is revealed.

In the early 1800s, by the time steeplechasing emerged as an organized sport with paying spectators, a variety of activities including flat racing, foxhunting, stag hunting, wingshooting, and coaching had already become popular and been captured by British sporting artists for two centuries. Early steeplechasing imagery reflected the stylized depictions of animals in motion with fore and hindlegs outstretched, already a part of the sporting art aesthetic. Referred to as the “hobby horse,” “rocking horse,” or “flying gallop,” the pose was popularized in the 18th

century and influenced depictions of motion and portraiture for almost a century and a half.

Additionally, sporting art became infused by the French *animalier* movement. Artists who studied and worked in Paris began focusing on the animal as fine art, and sporting subjects were popular with mid-19th century sculptors whose work in turn appealed to British art collectors. Highly detailed, three-dimensional bronzes evoked the dynamism and vitality of the steeplechasers and the intensity of the falls, yet still incorporated the traditional, outstretched fores and hinds of the horses galloping and jumping.

Steeplechasing art challenges the best artists to encapsulate the exhilarating moments of a 1,000-lb. animal suspended in midair with a rider astride or a dramatic crash as the pair tumbles. A pivotal moment in art history began to unfold with broadening access to the photographic stop-motion



Jean Bowman (American, 1918–1994), *Under Starters Orders*, 1992, oil on canvas, 20 x 28 inches, Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Seilheimer, Jr. © John H. Pentecost

studies of animal locomotion beginning in the 1870s. The photographs were revolutionary and confronted centuries' long held notions and aesthetic preferences. It took decades for subsequent access to photography to fully impact art. Late 19th and early 20th century artists began portraying more accurate motion in steeplechasing with varying degrees of success, sometimes including both traditional and anatomically correct poses in the same composition.

A gilded age of sport emerged between World War I and II with a dedicated following of amateur meets and sanctioned steeplechases. Portraits of winning horses, owners, trainers, and jockeys; and oil paintings, watercolors, drawings of exhilarating jumps and crashes were commissioned and collected, and reproductions of artwork in sporting periodicals such as *Polo* flourished. In 1945, *The Chronicle of the Horse* began featuring artwork on the cover of the weekly magazine and became a platform for decades to showcase contemporary and traditional steeplechasing art. Today, the dizzying array of artwork reflects the community that loves the sport, its history, and tradition, and champions steeplechasing for future generations. 🐾

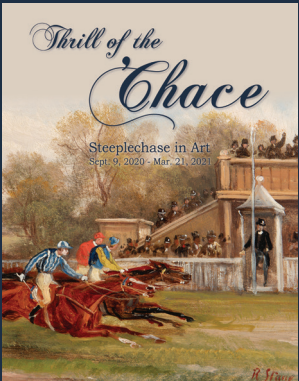
The utmost appreciation is extended to Premier Sponsors Zohar and Lisa Ben-Dov and Mrs. Frances Massey Dulaney and Title Sponsors Marlou and John C. Gregory, Jr.; Naylor Family Foundation; Sam Slater and Lornie Forbes; Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Fenwick, Jr.; Middleburg Spring Races; Montpelier Hunt Races; and Virginia Fall Races for making this exhibition and the accompanying catalog possible.

Right: Gordon Ross (American, 1873–1943), *Over the Liverpool, Challenge Cup, 1927*, watercolor and gouache on paper, 4 ³/₄ x 25 inches, National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame

Bottom Right: Evgeny-Alexandrovich Lanceray (Russian, 1875–1946) *The Steeplechase*, modeled 1882, bronze, 12 x 17 ³/₄ x 10 ¹/₄ inches Collection of Ann and Sonny Via

Bottom left: Eugene Louis Lami (French, 1800–1890) *Les Courses*, 19th Century graphite, ink, watercolor, and gouache on wove paper 7 ⁷/₈ x 14 ¹/₁₆ inches Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon
Photo: Troy Wilkinson © Virginia Museum of Fine Arts





Exhibition Catalogues

\$20

Purchase On-Line or In-Person





Over The Liverpool

The twenty-sixth running of the Challenge Cup St. Leger for Hatters about two and a half miles at the race meeting of

The Eastern Horse Club

Held at The Country Club & Brookline, Massachusetts, June 17th, 1926





THE NSLM's 2020 POLO CLASSIC

By Reid
O'Connor
Director of
Development

PRESENTED BY MARS EQUESTRIAN™

The 2020 Polo Classic Presented by MARS Equestrian™ was held at Great Meadow on Sunday, September 13. As a result of the pandemic, the Polo Classic took on a different format this year with limited capacity and social distancing. There were a total of 50 tailgates with six people in each, and a small general admission area. The Committee, Co-Chaired by Jacqueline B. Mars and Juliana E. May, worked tirelessly and creatively to host a fun and festive event while ensuring the safety of attendees, players, and staff as the top priority. Despite the many challenges of the year, the weather gods smiled down upon the event, and guests enjoyed a beautiful day of exciting sport!

Attendees were thrilled to watch polo star and returning participant in the NSLM Polo Classic, Nacho Figueras, take to the field on the BUCKEYE™ Nutrition Team alongside his

son, Hilario. We were also delighted to welcome brothers Kareem and Daymar Rosser for the first time. The Rossers learned to play polo through the Work to Ride Foundation in Philadelphia and are now advocates for the program. Work to Ride is a nonprofit prevention program which "seeks to aid disadvantaged urban youth by offering constructive activities including horsemanship, equine sports and education."

The morning's Founders Cup was a closely fought match between NetJets and the NSLM Team, sponsored by Board Member Donald G. Calder and wife Ann. The game ended with a tie in goals, but a win to the NSLM on account of the team's handicap. In the afternoon, the Mars Cup featured a fast-paced face-off between BUCKEYE™ Nutrition and Holman Hall, sponsored by Board Chairman Manuel H. Johnson and wife Mary. In this thrilling match, BUCKEYE™

took home the win. The Most Valuable Player Awards Sponsored by Celebrity Cruises/Hotels at Sea went to Chris Holder in Founders Cup and Nacho Figueras in the Mars Cup. The Best Playing Pony Awards Sponsored by Tri-County and BUCKEYE™ Nutrition went to Great Meadow Polo Club and Beverly Equestrian.

In Polo Classic tradition, the Orange County Hounds, led by huntsman Reg Spreadborough, paraded around the field. Attendees and their canine companions were encouraged to participate in the Dog Divot Stomp Sponsored by NUTRO™. There were two lucky canine winners of the Best Turned Out Dog Award Sponsored by NUTRO™, which was presented by MARS Equestrian™ Family Ambassador Charlotte Rossetter: "Whitney" Epstein and "Charlotte" Murdock. Guests embraced the festivity of the day with fun

hats and beautifully decorated tailgates. The Best Tailgate Award Sponsored by Highcliffe Clothiers went to NSLM Board Member Jacqueline L. Ohrstrom.

We would like to extend a special thank you to all the sponsors and ticket purchasers who helped make the Polo Classic a success. We are truly grateful for the overwhelming support and enthusiasm we received, especially in these challenging times. The Polo Classic is the NSLM's only fundraising event, and support from the event is critical in helping us to fulfill our mission throughout the year. Additionally, the Polo Classic Committee is proud to say that \$10,000 of the proceeds from this year's event will be shared with two local foodbanks, Seven Loaves and Fauquier Community Foodbank, to support our community members who have experienced loss and hardship from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mark your calendar for next year's Polo Classic on September 12, 2021! We look forward to seeing you there! 🍌



Founders Cup (morning match)

NETJETS

Bob Parr
David Tafuri
Nico Eurnekian
Juan Sanchez



Chris Holder
Tareq Salahi
Marcos Bignoli
John Gobin

Mars Cup (afternoon match)

Holman Hall

David Greenhill
Daymar Rosser
Justo Mourino
Tolito Campo



Bill Ballhaus
Kareem Rosser
Nacho Figueras
Hilario Figueras



2020 Polo Committee:

Jacqueline B. Mars, Co-Chair

Juliana E. May, Co-Chair

Anjela Carroll

Natalie M. Epstein

Rebekah Greenhill

Gertraud Hechl

Amy Kelly

Catherine C. Murdock

Danielle Quinn

Photos by Middleburg Photo and
SAS Equine Photography

NSLM WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER HENRY R. SLACK

INTERVIEWED BY LAUREN O'NEILL
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE & MANAGER OF GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Henry (Hank) Slack was born in Ohio and raised there, in Switzerland, and in New Jersey. He attended Groton School and graduated from Princeton University in 1972. Most of his business career has been in the mining industry, where he was on the Board and Executive Committee of Anglo American, PLC, and Chief Executive of Minorco, Anglo's worldwide, but non-African, public vehicle. Slack lived for many years in South Africa and then London before returning home to Peapack, New Jersey.

Since his teenage years he has been a Subscriber of the Essex Fox Hounds in New Jersey, and more recently was a Joint MFH. In addition to fox hunting, Slack enjoys fly fishing, bird shooting, skiing, and tennis. He is a keen collector of sporting art.

When asked recently what initially attracted him to the NSLM, Slack replied:

"I will always be grateful to Bundles Murdock for first introducing me to the NSLM. I am a very minor collector of sporting art, so it was not a surprise that I was immediately attracted to the Museum's fabulous collection, along with its buildings and layout. Then, thanks to Jacquie Mars and Bundles, I met Claudia Pfeiffer and later Elizabeth von Hassell. What fabulous people! For these reasons alone how could one not be mesmerized by the NSLM."



Photo by: Priscilla K. Miller Photography

When asked if he had goals for his tenure as a Board Member, Slack replied:

"Firstly, I fervently hope that I might be of some use going forward. I have a lot to learn, but at the moment I am specifically interested in the NSLM's John H. Daniels Research, Publication and Fellowship Program. It would be nice to see if I could be helpful with this important effort."

Finally, we asked Slack to describe one of his fondest sporting memories:

"It is fair to say that I am blessed and spoiled for choices. I have shot and fished in Africa, Europe, America, and Canada, and fox hunted in America and Ireland. So,

there have been many exciting times. If I had to single out one of them, it would probably be the time I was fortunate enough to catch a 38-pound salmon on the Cascapedia River in Quebec. The fish was hooked quite far up river and while I was fishing in waders close to the bank, but ended up taking my two guides and me in our canoe a mile down river, where we were finally able to land him. This noble fish fought for over an hour. There were times during the ordeal when I was not sure I was going to make it! Afterwards I was utterly exhausted – but in the happiest way."

NSLM is thrilled to welcome Hank to the Board of Directors and also to the Fellowship Committee. He has jumped right in and been instrumental in selecting the six new John H. Daniels Fellows for 2021. We look forward to working with him more in the future. 🍷

SINCEREST THANKS TO BOARD MEMBER HELEN K. GROVES

INTERVIEWED BY LAUREN O'NEILL
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE & MANAGER OF GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Helen K. Groves has been a long-time supporter and Board Member of the NSLM. After 27 years of service to the NSLM's Board of Directors, she has chosen to transition to Director Emeritus. Helen has spent a lifetime in ranching and livestock, besides civic work and raising her six children. I had the opportunity to interview Helen and learn more about her passion for the NSLM.

How has the NSLM changed since you first joined the Board of Directors in 1993?

"To talk about the change, I first must tell you how I came to be on the Board of Directors. I had helped Alec McKay Smith by reading and critiquing his book regarding "Origins of The Thoroughbred", and I suppose, he recommended me to George Ohrstrom as a possible Board Member. I was invited to join the Board of Directors after going to lunch with George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. and Alexander Mackay-Smith. At the time, the Library was in the basement of Vine Hill, which was the original building on the grounds of National Sporting Library (precursor to NSLM). Peter Winants, the President of NSL at the time, was very tall and he had to bend down so the pipes did not hit him when he moved around, and everything smelled damp. Being on the board was a casual affair then. During one of our early board meetings, it was mentioned that the NSL needed to have more members in order for donors to receive a tax deduction on their gifts. I suggested a \$25 membership level with the benefits of a quarterly letter and advanced opportunity to participate in a book auction sale. The NSLM's membership has grown considerably since those early days."

"I saw the renovation of Vine Hill, and its eventual addition, which brought the Museum component to the organization. Before that was completed, the Library, which was beautifully designed with proper air conditioning, was constructed. It has been a wonderful experience because of the people we



have involved with the organization who are ever more interesting and ever more delightful. It has been a wonderful thing to be a part of."

As a long-time supporter of the NSLM, what would you say to someone that has never been here before?

"I encourage you to spend plenty of time at the Museum and Library, and then come back, because you won't be able to see everything the NSLM has in one visit. There is art everywhere, in both

the Museum and Library. There are some very old rare books that you are allowed to see at the Library under supervision – things from the 1500s! We have a collection that is very well known, and nobody else has it. It is well worth a visit."

Tell me about your fondest memory at the NSLM.

"I can't pick just one! There have been so many wonderful things and so many wonderful people over the years. I have been to some fantastic dinners given by Board Members over the years and I have enjoyed each exhibition done by the Museum. I am so happy to have been associated with this wonderful Library and Museum and to see the life that it has had thus far."

Since 1979, Mrs. Groves has been a dedicated member of the National Sporting Library & Museum, and there is not enough space to list all she has done for the NSLM. In addition to donating books from her own collection, Mrs. Groves has been key in keeping the NSLM on the technological forefront, which has been crucial to maintaining the NSLM's online digital presence. Mrs. Groves contributed funds for the purchase of several cornerstones of the museum's permanent collection, including the iconic silver coach, *Park Drag*, and the recent Alfred Munnings acquisition, *Under Starter's Orders, Newmarket*. We are most grateful for her friendship and support. Thank you, Mrs. Groves, for all you have done in helping NSLM become the institution it is today. 🍷

the journal

Recent news and updates from the Library & Museum

REOPENING THE NSLM



Adapt. That has been the NSLM's mantra since our doors closed in March. Throughout our closure staff diligently worked to adapt how we engage with our community through exhibitions, collections, educational programs, and social media. Due to the creative thinking of staff and support from our members, the NSLM was able to safely re-open in July with a limited capacity and following the latest health guidelines. Visitors can reserve Museum tickets for Fridays and Saturdays at 11am and 2pm for a self-guided experience, and our Library is open for study, research, or general reading by appointment Tuesday through Friday. The health and safety of our visitors and staff is our top priority and we have taken measures to ensure that. All visitors and staff must wear masks, hand sanitizer is provided, social distancing markers are in use, and routine cleaning is conducted.

Digital access to exhibitions and educational programs is paramount to fulfilling our mission and engaging with our community. Through the use of virtual platforms a visit to see the new exhibition *Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art* or participation in a Coffee with the Curator can be done from the comfort of your own home wherever that may be. The adoption of digital platforms has broken down the barrier of physical access to the NSLM and its programs and in turn has broadened our definition of community.

Welcome Back!

The NSLM is open Fridays and Saturdays with a limited number of tickets: 11am and 2pm

To Visit the Museum:



Reserve your ticket online in advance



Wear your mask & social distance



Gift shop is check & debit/credit card only

To Visit the Library:



Appointments made online in advance



Wear your mask & social distance



Remember that staff will pull all research items and books for you

Admission to the Museum is: Free for Members,
First Responders, SNAP/EBT Card recipients
\$10 for General Admission | \$8 for Seniors & Youth

Questions? Email info@nationalsporting.org

Reserve your ticket online in advance at www.NationalSporting.org

Now art enthusiasts, sporting lovers, and curiosity seekers from across the globe can virtually explore our galleries, interact in an educational program, and be a part of the NSLM community.

Our staff is working conscientiously to ensure safety, to adapt to changes, and to engage with our community on-site and virtually. This fall, reserve times to visit the Museum, make an appointment in the Library, or tune in virtually to one of our programs. We can't wait to see you soon! 🍷

Reserve your NSLM visit on our website: www.NationalSporting.org



VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS

Take a virtual walk through our galleries and visit our exhibitions.
These are free to access, but donations are always appreciated.

Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand

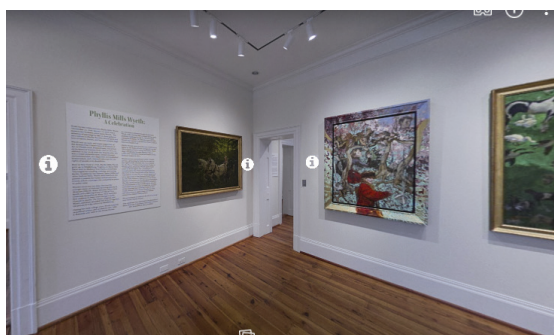
Angling in Special Collections

Highlights from the Permanent Collection

In Bronze: Herbert Haseltine

Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration

Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art



Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration

Art Before and After the Camera



Before camera, artists did not know how horses moved when galloping or jumping, so they depicted the horses in a "roaching back" position with all four legs off the ground.

After the invention of the camera, artists could see how horses really moved and artists began to paint, draw, and sculpt them more realistically!



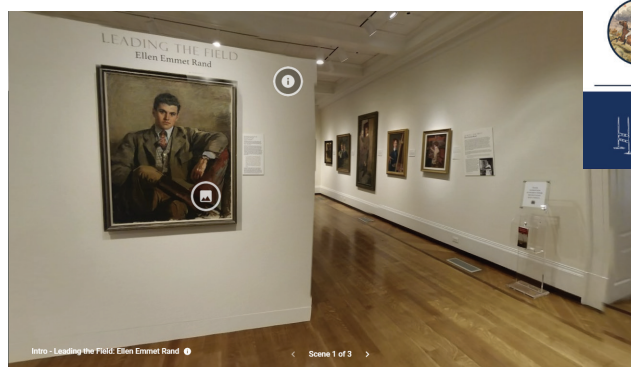
Can You Find the Artist's Name?



Explore Thrill of the 'Chace: Steeplechase in Art with our family friendly "Thrill of the 'Chace: Family Guide."



Angling in Special Collections



Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand

Virtual Exhibitions Available at: www.NationalSporting.org



HELP BUILD THE LIBRARY

BY ERICA LIBHART
MARS TECHNICAL SERVICES LIBRARIAN

If you have collected books on sporting topics that are close to your heart, consider their fate after you are gone. Do your heirs share your passion? Or will your cherished volumes end up sitting in a box in the basement gathering dust and insects, or even end up in a dumpster? Why not leave your volumes to the NSLM where they will be loved and cared for, and where they will serve to inspire a new generation of sportspeople instead?

Since its founding in 1954, the Library's collection of books, periodicals, and archives has been shaped by our community. The collection began with the combined personal libraries of our four founders: Alexander Mackay-Smith, George L. Ohrstrom, Sr., Fletcher Harper, and Lester Karow. Over the years the Library's holdings have grown substantially, mainly through donations from our members and friends. Whether by single titles or by the boxful, each gift has been essential in building the unique and uniquely accessible library on sporting topics that the NSLM has



become. Today the Library boasts over 16,000 books, more than 800 periodical titles, and 86 archival collections. It draws scholars from around the world and supports the researchers of the John H. Daniels Fellowship Program. It is also freely available to casual readers and amateur researchers. Many of our holdings are digitally available at no cost on our Internet Archive page, which dramatically increases our reach.

Please consider helping us continue to build this special collection. Titles that are not already held in the collection will be added, each with a book plate commemorating your donation. Duplicate titles will be rehomed with other sporting enthusiasts through the Library's various

book sales and auctions. Funds raised from these sales are used for the care of the Library's collections. For more information contact the George L. Ohrstrom, Jr. Head Librarian Michelle Guzman or Mars Technical Services Librarian Erica Libhart at 540-687-6542. 🐾

NSLM ANNOUNCES THE 2021 JOHN H. DANIELS FELLOWS

The NSLM is proud to announce the scholars awarded John H. Daniels Fellowships for 2021. Each Fellow will be in residence at the Library for up to two months conducting original scholarship utilizing the Library's collections. Many will also be sharing their research with the NSLM community through a public lecture or a blog article. Keep an eye on our website for details!

Patricia Akhimie, Rutgers University:

"Riding Double: Courtship and Travel for Marriage"

Clayton Fordahl, University of Memphis:

"Bobwhite: A Bird's Eye View of Nature and Civilization in the American South"

Ignacio D. Arellano-Torres, University of Louisiana:

"A Critical Edition of Libro de Exercicios de la Gineta (1600) by Bernardo de Vargas Machuca"

Mike Huggins, University of Cumbria:

"Enjoying Country Sports in America and the UK: Aspects of Social Life in their Sports Clubs, c.1800-1920"

Mary C. Fesak, University of Delaware:

"Architectural and Social History Approach to Late-Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth Century Thoroughbred Racehorse Breeding and Training Landscapes"

Tracy Barnett, University of Georgia:

"Men and Their Guns, The Culture of Self-Deputized Manhood in the South, 1850-1877"

In Memory



Board Member David B. Ford

BY LAUREN KRAUT
COLLECTIONS MANAGER

The National Sporting Library & Museum is saddened to write of the passing of David B. Ford on September 20, 2020.

Mr. Ford joined the NSLM Board of Directors in the fall of 2019 and made a forceful impact immediately as part of the Buildings & Grounds Committee, which aligned with his interests in architectural preservation. The purchases made through this committee are not as glamorous as a sculpture or rare book, but he understood that new equipment, like the recently upgraded HVAC system, was critical to allow the NSLM to continue to protect these objects. Additionally, he recognized that having sound structures not only supports the tangible treasures within, but that the buildings themselves would one day have their own historic importance. He helped us see the forest for the trees.

A generous philanthropist, Mr. Ford was a Board Member and Director/Trustee of several organizations, including The Animal Medical Center, The International Tennis Hall of Fame, and The



Preservation Society of Newport County. He was a member of the Board of Overseers of The Wharton School and was a member of the Barnes Foundation National Ambassadors Board. Previous affiliations include The New School, New York; Florida State University; the World Monuments Fund; the Redwood Library and Athenaeum; the Philadelphia Orchestra; the American Agora Foundation; and Chair of the National Audubon Society.

Mr. Ford embodied the mission of the NSLM. He was an avid book and art collector and active sportsman, who self-deprecatingly referred to himself, as “a jack of all trades, master of none.” On a much more personal note, he was kind and thoughtful individual and we will miss him. The entire NSLM community extends its deepest sympathy to the Ford family. 🙏



Left: David Ford with Fritz Reuter at an NSLM Sporting Weekend. Right: Andrew Stifler, David Ford, Elizabeth von Hassell, and David Wright at the 2019 Polo Classic.

The National Sporting Library & Museum wishes to thank and recognize our corporate, individual, and foundation supporters whose donations were received between September 1, 2019 and September 1, 2020 and our members whose renewals were received between September 1, 2019 and September 1, 2020. These contributions form the foundation of financial support for the NSLM's operations. We are grateful for gifts at all levels and thank our many donors and friends.

\$25,000.00+

Mrs. William Abel Smith
DH Baker, II
Mr. and Mrs. Zohar Ben-Dov
Ms. Cathy M. Brentzel
Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Calder
Mrs. Frances Massey Dulaney
Dr. and Mrs. Manuel H. Johnson
Shirley Z. Johnson
Mrs. Jacqueline B. Mars
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Mullin, III
Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Ohrstrom
Mrs. George L. Ohrstrom, Jr.
George L. Ohrstrom, II
Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Ohrstrom
Mrs. Lorian Peralta-Ramos
Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Slack
Mrs. Robert H. Smith
Thomas Stark, III

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ENDNOTES



Wills's Cigarettes card, Battleship, 1938, gift of Merri Farrell, 2020

A recent colorful addition to the NSLM archives is a series of cigarette cards published by English tobacconist W.D. & H.O. Wills featuring steeplechase horses and jockeys from 1938.

In the late 19th century, a package of cigarettes could easily be crinkled and damaged. To solve this inconvenience, blank cards were inserted into the packs to help keep their shape thus salvaging the contents. A keen observer noted that it would be beneficial to include an advertisement on the card. From there, and as technology improved, the cards evolved from sporting simple logos to color images or even photos. Eventually, they would get more elaborate and include accompanying information on the back of the card.

The major cigarette distributors created limited series of cards focused on a specific theme, and the range of themes was extensive, from flowers and musical instruments to royal families and branches of the military. The various series could have as few as six cards or as many as fifty. A buyer that committed to completing an entire set would be forced to continue purchasing the product. With each purchase he or she was “rewarded” with a new card or, disappointingly, a duplicate, in which case, another pack needed to be bought. As the popularity of collecting these cards became apparent the cigarette manufacturers embraced them as a tool to drive sales, and thousands of different series were issued. 🍷

NSLM CALENDAR

Upcoming Virtual Programs

NOVEMBER

Lunch with the Librarians NOVEMBER 7 | 12pm

Did you know that the Library holds over 800 periodical titles? Many of the 19th and 20th century sporting periodicals featured beautiful and captivating cover art portraying equestrian, angling, and hunting scenes. Grab yourself some lunch and join the NSLM Librarians via Zoom as they share and discuss the artwork gracing the covers in the Library's collection. This is a donation program to help support the mission of the NSLM.

Lunch with the Librarians: Cover Art from the Vault November 7 | 12-1pm



Sunday Sketch with Suzanne Lago Arthur NOVEMBER 29 | 2pm

Follow along with artist Suzanne Lago Arthur as she draws a master copy in pastel of *Jockeys Between Races*, Newmarket, 2009 by Henry Koehler. Suzanne explains how to achieve a truthful likeness by deciphering the shape and light and dark relationships within your subject. This is a free Zoom class!

Sunday Sketch!

November 29
2-3pm



DECEMBER

A Horse of Course: The Equine Image in Art with VMFA's Jeffrey Allison DECEMBER 3 | 6 pm

Of the thousands of examples of rock art found at Lascaux, Niaux, Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, and other sites across France and Spain, nearly a third of the figures represent horses. In this virtual talk, Jeffrey Allison discusses the horse in art history, tracing the ways in which artists have used the horse as subject matter over the millennia from prehistoric caves to contemporary works by artists such as Picasso and Deborah Butterfield. This talk is held in conjunction with *A Horse of Course: The Equine Image in Art* exhibition located in the Library's Forrest E. Mars Sr. Exhibit Hall on view October 7, 2020 - March 29, 2021. To visit this exhibition, contact vpeacock@nationalsporting.org, 540-687-6542 x 25. Free for NSLM Members \$5 for non-members



A Horse of Course:
The Equine Image in Art with
VMFA's Jeffrey Allison

December 3
6 - 7pm

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